

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A boom for a loader, comprising: a carrier arrangement including a carrier having one end adapted for being fastened to a frame of the loader for pivoting vertically about a horizontal axis, and having a second end defined by a first attaching flange; an extension carrier having opposite ends respectively defined by a second attaching flange adapted for abutting and being releasably fastened to said first attaching flange; and a front piece adapted for being fastened to a tool and including a mating flange adapted for abutting and being releasably secured to one of said first and third attaching flanges flange, whereby said extension may be selectively attached to said carrier and said front piece may alternatively be attached either to said carrier or to said extension.

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The boom, as defined by claim 1, wherein said carrier of said carrier arrangement is includes a first carrier and said carrier arrangement further including at least a second carrier; said first carrier defining a receptacle adapted for selectively receiving said second carrier in a guided, telescoping manner; and said second carrier having an exposed said second end defined by a fourth said attaching flange; and said mating flange being adapted for abutting and being selectively attached to said fourth attaching flange, whereby said boom may be selectively constructed so as to include either said extension carrier or said second carrier.

4. (cancelled)

5. (original) The boom, as defined by claim 1, wherein said front piece includes at least one cast component.

6. (original) The boom, as defined in claim 5, wherein said front piece is generally configured as a cast component.

7. (original) The boom, as defined in claim 2, wherein said first and at least

second carriers are each configured as one of round, box or multi-edge profiles.

8. (original) The boom, as defined in claim 4, wherein said carrier arrangement includes a central, longitudinal axis; and each attaching and each mating flange of said carrier arrangement extends one of toward said longitudinal axis, or away from said longitudinal axis from respective outer surface regions of said carrier arrangement.

9. (original) The boom, as defined in claim 8, wherein each of said attaching and mating flanges are arranged one of perpendicular or inclined to said longitudinal axis.

10. (original) The boom, as defined in claim 1, wherein one of said attaching and mating flanges is provided with a first set of threaded holes, and another of said attaching and mating flanges is provided with a second set of holes which are aligned with said first set of holes; and a set of screws releasably securing said mating and attaching flanges together.